SLOVENSKI STANDARD
oSIST prEN ISO 14020:2022

01-junij-2022

Okoljske izjave in programi za proizvode - Načela in splošne zahteve (ISO/DIS 14020:2022)

Environmental statements and programmes for products - Principles and general requirements (ISO/DIS 14020:2022)

Umwelterklärungen und -programme für Produkte – Grundsätze und allgemeine Anforderungen (ISO/DIS 14020:2022)

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Déclarations environnementales et programmes pour les produits - Principes et exigences générales (ISO/DIS 14020:2022)

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 207, *Environmental management*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Environmental labelling*.

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This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 14020:2000), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— this edition contains two new concepts and terms - ‘environmental statement’ and ‘environmental statement programme’;

— this edition has added terms and definitions that are generic to all types of environmental statement programmes and environmental statements;

— this edition has consolidated and updated the principles applicable for environmental statements that were previously contained in the ISO 14020 family of standards, and placed the requirements that were previously included within those principles into separate requirement clauses within this document; and

— this edition adds general requirements applicable to all types of environmental statement programmes and environmental statements.

A list of all standards in the ISO 14020 family of standards can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

0.1 Communicating the environmental aspects and potential environmental impacts of products assists intended audiences (e.g. investors, purchasers and consumers) to make decisions on selection and use of products. The overall objective of providing information about the environmental aspects of products (i.e. environmental statements) is to encourage selection, purchase and use of those products that have the least adverse potential or actual environmental impact.

0.2 Suppliers that communicate the environmental aspects of their products via environmental statements hope to influence the market in favour of their products. If the communication has this effect, the market share of those products can increase, and other suppliers may respond by improving the environmental performance of their products. Ultimately this results in reduced environmental impact from that product category.

0.3 Suppliers that communicate the environmental aspects of their products via environmental statements also benefit at different levels within the company, both for the development of their products as well as for their environmental management and improvement of environmental performance.

0.4 Since the 1990s, ISO has developed the ISO 14020 family of standards that have provided terms and definitions, principles and requirements for how the environmental aspects of products should be communicated, including requirements for environmental statements (e.g. self-declared environmental claims (ISO 14021), ecolabels (ISO 14024), environmental product declarations (ISO 14025) and footprint communications (ISO 14026)). ISO 14020 is the core document in the ISO 14020 family of standards, and this new edition updates and consolidates the common terms and definitions, principles and requirements for environmental statements and programmes that enable environmental statements to be made.

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0.5 The structure of the revised ISO 14020 family of standards is illustrated in Figure 1 and summarized as follows:

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a) ISO 14020 - common terms and definitions, principles and general requirements for all environmental statements (e.g. self-declared environmental claims, ecolabels, environmental product declarations and footprint communications, etc.) and associated programmes that enable the communication of environmental aspects of products;

b) ISO 14021 - requirements for environmental statements in the form of self-declared environmental claims;

c) ISO 14024 - requirements for environmental statements in the form of environmental labels known as ecolabels;

d) ISO 14025 - requirements for environmental statements in the form of environmental product declarations (EPDs);

e) ISO 14026 - requirements for environmental statements in the form of footprint communications;

f) ISO 14027 – requirements for product category rules (PCRs) that support the use of life cycle assessment as a method to compile and evaluate the information used as a basis for making environmental statements; and

g) ISO/TS 14029 – requirements for the mutual recognition of EPDs and associated programmes.

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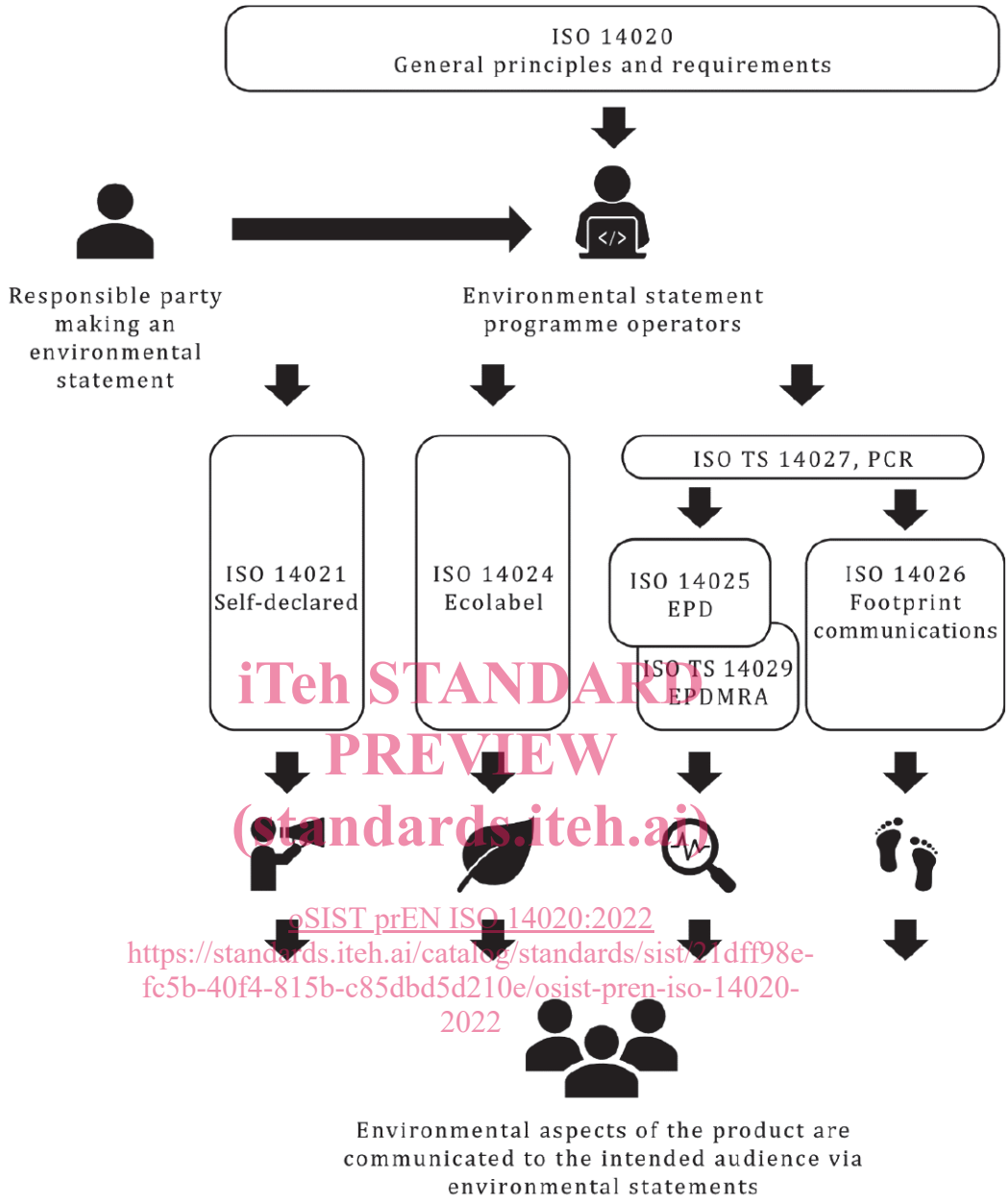

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Figure 1 — Structure of the revised ISO 14020 family of standards

0.6 Further explanatory information on the types of environmental statement is contained in Clause 5.

0.7 Fundamental to the communication of the environmental aspects of products through the use of the ISO 14020 family of standards are the following understandings:

a) that an environmental statement is prepared or made about the environmental aspect(s) of a product by an identifiable responsible party;

b) that all environmental statements (including self-declared environmental claims) are made within the context of an environmental statement programme (see Annex A as an example of a simple type of environmental statement programme for a self-declared claim);

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c) that an environmental statement programme is established by an identifiable programme operator who:

   i. defines the type of the environmental statement(s) (e.g. self-declared environmental claim, ecolabel, environmental product declaration, footprint communication, etc.) included in the environmental statement programme;

   ii. prescribes the requirements, criteria and methodology associated with the environmental statement programme and the environmental statement;

   iii. where relevant, identifies how the environmental statement is to be assessed (e.g. through methods such as auditing, evaluation, examination, inspection, testing, validation or verification; and whether these assessment techniques can result in the environmental statement being self-declared by the first party, or whether a second or third - party assessment activity is required);

   iv. confirms the format, media and type of information that is to be communicated with the environmental statement to the intended audiences (e.g. investors, purchasers, consumers, etc.); and

   v. establishes the validity period of environmental statement(s) and any ongoing assessment requirements.

0.8 This document aims to ensure that, in future, environmental statements will be made within the context of an environmental statement programme or scheme. Environmental statement programmes can vary in complexity depending on the type of environmental statement being made (in some cases a simple internal process or procedure, in other cases an extensive set of programme rules).

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0.9 All programmes specify the product or the family of products that are to be covered; the specified requirements and criteria that must be demonstrated to support the environmental statement; and the determination methodology to undertake the demonstration, including any necessary information, competencies and use of conformity assessment (e.g. testing, inspection, verification or certification activities).

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0.10 For reference, Annex B includes a list of self-declared environmental claims that are sometimes found in the market and are further covered in ISO 14021.

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Environmental statements and programmes for products - Principles and general requirements

1 Scope

1.1 This document contains common terms and definitions, principles and general requirements that apply to all types of product related environmental statements and environmental statement programmes. Environmental statements result from environmental statement programmes and include self-declared environmental claims, ecolabels, environmental product declarations (EPDs) and footprint communications.

1.2 This document is a normative reference for other documents in the ISO 14020 family of standards.

NOTE Those other documents contain additional terms and definitions, principles and requirements that are relevant to their specific scopes.

2 Normative references

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The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 14021, *Environmental labels and declarations — Self-declared environmental claims (Type II environmental labelling)*

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ISO 14024, *Environmental labels and declarations — Type I environmental labelling — Principles and procedures*

ISO 14025, *Environmental labels and declarations — Type III environmental declarations — Principles and procedures*

ISO 14026, *Environmental labels and declarations — Principles, requirements and guidelines for communication of footprint information*

ISO 14050, *Environmental management — Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

NOTE The following terms and definitions are laid out in a systematic order. A term in a definition or note that is defined in another entry is indicated by bold face followed by its entry number in parentheses.

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3.1 Terms and definitions related to the environment

3.1.1
area of concern
aspect of the natural environment, human health or resources of interest to society

EXAMPLE Water scarcity, climate change, biodiversity.

[SOURCE: ISO 14050, 3.2.11, EXAMPLE added]

3.1.2
environment
surroundings in which an organization operates, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, humans, and their interrelationships

Note 1 to entry: Surroundings can extend from within an organization to the local, regional and global system.

Note 2 to entry: Surroundings can be described in terms of biodiversity, ecosystems, climate or other characteristics of an organization's activities (including projects) or products that interact or can interact with the environment.

[SOURCE: ISO 14050: 2020, 3.2.2; notes to entry added]

3.1.3
environmental aspect
element of an organization's activities or *products* (3.2.11) that interacts or can interact with the *environment* (3.1.2)

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Note 1 to entry: Typically, environmental aspects might include emissions to air, discharges to water and waste arisings, which in turn may generate environmental and health impacts such as global warming, smog, water pollution or contaminated land.

[SOURCE: ISO 14050: 2020, 3.2.20; note to entry added]

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3.1.4
environmental impact
change to the *environment* (3.1.2), whether adverse or beneficial, including possible consequences, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's *environmental aspects* (3.1.3)

[SOURCE: ISO 14050:2020, 3.2.22]

3.1.5
environmental performance
performance related to the management of *environmental aspects* (3.1.3)

[SOURCE: ISO 14050:2020, 3.2.27]

3.2 Terms and definitions related to environmental statements

3.2.1
environmental statement
information on one or more *environmental aspect(s)* (3.1.3) of a *product* (3.2.11), which intends to inform an *intended audience* (3.2.14) and intends to influence the market of this product

Note 1 to entry: The environmental statement can represent a point in time or can cover a period of time.

Note 2 to entry: Types of environmental statement include, but are not limited to:

a) self-declared environmental claims;

b) ecolabels;

c) environmental product declarations (EPDs);

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